

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 02970 050719Z  
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 PPT-01 CA-01 L-03 H-01 /025 W  
-----024128 050721Z /11

P 050642Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9350  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2970

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CPAS, CFED, ETRD, RO (HERSCOVICI, ISAC)

SUBJECT: SMUGGLING OF STOLEN GOODS INTO ROMANIA

REF: (A) ROME 7687; (B) BUCH 2888

ROME FOR THOMAS R. BOYD, CUSTOMS ATTACHE

1. ON APRIL 30, 1978, AT ABOUT 3:00 PM, MR IASC HERSCOVICI  
CAME TO THE CONSULAR SECTION WITH A COMPLAINT ABOUT HIS  
TREATMENT BY ROMANIAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES AND THE CONFISCA-  
TION OF A LARGE QUANTITY OF JEWELRY BY THE ROMANIAN CUSTOMS.  
HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, AND BOTH WERE WEARING  
SEVERAL GOLD RINGS AND OTHER JEWELRY, INCLUDING WATCHES.  
HE GAVE HIS U.S. ADDRESS AS 4700 WINTON RD., CINNCINNATI,  
OHIO, 45232, AND GAVE THE ADDRESS OF A BROTHER-IN-LAW IN  
ROMANIA.

2. HE STATED THAT HE HAD DECLARED A LARGE QUANTITY OF  
JEWELRY AT THE BORDER. HE HAD HOWEVER NEGLECTED TO DECLARE  
FOUR GOLD RINGS, TWO OF WHICH WERE ALLEGEDLY FOR HIS BROTHER-  
IN-LAW'S WEDDING IN ROMANIA AND TWO ALLEGEDLY FOR HIS  
FATHER IN ISRAEL. ALL THE JEWELRY WAS CONFISCATED  
BY THE ROMANIANS WHO GAVE HIM A RECEIPT FOR IT AND  
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TOLD HIM HE COULD PICK IT UP WHEN HE LEFT THE COUNTRY.  
HE VEHEMENTLY PROTESTED THIS "RUDE BEHAVIOR" TO  
CONOFF TO WHOM HE SHOWED THE RECEIPTS AS WELL AS  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE JEWELRY AND A U.S. CUSTOMS  
CERTIFICATE FOR IT. HE WAS FINED 5,000 LEI.

3. CONOFF INFORMED MR. HERSCOVICI EMBASSY COULD NOT

ACTIVELY INTERVENE ON HIS BEHALF WITH THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES AND THAT HE SHOULD GO TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND DISCUSS THE PROBLEM WITH THEM. EMBASSY NOTES THAT A FOREIGN SERVICES OFFICER WAS COINCIDENTALLY AT AIRPORT DURING SUBJECT'S ARRIVAL AND OBSERVED NO RUDE TREATMENT OF SUBJECT.

4. SUBJECT LED CONOFF TO BELIEVE HE WOULD BE IN ROMANIA 5 WEEKS AND THEN PROCEED TO ISRAEL.

5. WE ASSUME EMBASSY ROME IS INFORMING APPROPRIATE FEDERAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN U.S. OF THESE EVENTS AND APPRECIATE YOUR REPEATING REF (A) TO DEPARTMENT. REF (B) ALSO BEING REPEATED TO DEPARTMENT.

6. EMBASSY ALSO APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON ACTION, IF ANY, THAT IT SHOULD TAKE WITH RESPECT TO HERSCOVICI'S PASSPORT.

7. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT.  
AGGREY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SMUGGLING, GOLD, COMMODITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BUCHAR02970  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780191-1069  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BUCHAREST  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780590/aaaacyzc.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 2ddfcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ROME 7687, 78 BUCHAREST 2888  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2785340  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SMUGGLING OF STOLEN GOODS INTO ROMANIA  
**TAGS:** CASC, CPAS, CFED, ETRD, RO, (HERSCOVICI, ISAC)  
**To:** STATE ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2ddfcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014